

SEP. 12. 1960

50

Fine Copy

ST/D

GERMAN DELEGATION

COCOM DOC 4129

Paris, September 7, 1960

COORDINATING COMMITTEEMEMORANDUM BY THE GERMAN DELEGATIONON THE EXPORT OF 308,3 tons BASIC ENAMEL TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The German Delegation wish to inform the Committee that their authorities have received an application to license the export to Czechoslovakia of

308,3 tons basic enamel (boron content 15,6 %) valued at 69.729,--\$.

The basic enamel due to its boron content is covered by item 1715. From the above mentioned shipment 178,3 tons basic enamel (value: 40.329,--\$) are destined for the plant "Glasura Roudnice"; whereas 130 tons (value: 29.400,--\$) are destined to "Glashütte Inwald".

The basic enamel is a slightly melted mixture of 87 % boric acid and 13 % silica; the boron can not be extracted but by rather complicated procedures. It should be mentioned furthermore that the total shipment does contain only about 45 tons boron (260 tons boric acid), quantity which does not effect at all the strategic potential of Czechoslovakia. The quantities will be used for enameling, they are certainly reasonable, since three great German enameling plants use 2000 tons a year, whereas the three greatest glass-plants of the Federal Republic, 25 % of the total capacity, need yearly about 4000 tons basic enamel. Since the Czechoslovakian glass- and ceramic-industry is a traditional leading one, the yearly needs of Czechoslovakia for boron acids for the mentioned civilian end-uses are rather higher than Poland for which the United States' Delegation (COCOM DOC 3958) estimated requirements of 2530 tons B_2O_3 , i. e. about 4480 tons boric acid (H_3BO_3).

Taking into account the shipment by the United Kingdom, Italy (even for 500 tons) and the Federal Republic, amounting together to a total of 1060 tons of boric acid, this quantity will hardly cover the civilian needs of Czechoslovakia for one year.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

The German Delegation would like to draw the attention to the fact that the Federal Republic like the United Kingdom and Italy is importing great quantities of glass- and ceramic products from Czechoslovakia. The imports in 1959 amounted to 18 095 tons of such products of which 17 877 tons glass and glass-ware and 218,4 tons ceramics and Chinaware, the boron content of these imports amounts to far more than 45 tons. The imports in 1960 will be at least of the same quantity. These quantities have to be compared with 308,3 tons basic enamel (boron content about 45 tons), therefore the later shipment seems to be a small one compared with the imports of glass- and ceramic-products.

The German Delegation would further mention that the exporting firm ships great quantities of dye-stuff to Czechoslovakia. If he could not provide the basic enamel, he risks to lose the sale of the dye-stuff.

The German Delegation present the request under the ad-hoc-procedure and hope that the Committee will concur with this request. They hope to receive the views of Governments at an early opportunity.

CONFIDENTIAL